

## **Committee Notes – Joint Meeting**

### **Security Committee- Hollywood Entertainment District, Sunset and Vine BID**

**December 12, 2013**

**Los Angeles Film School (6363 Sunset Blvd.)**

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Attendance: HED Committee Members Present: John Tronson, Chairperson; Charlie Colletta, Carol Massie, and Derrick Malec. Not Present: Chad Lewis. SVBID Committee Members Present: Fabio Conti and Elizabeth McDonald. Not Present: Fred Rosenthal, Chairperson; Katie Seymour and Anthony Bell. Liaisons: Steve Seyler, Joe Salazar, and Bill Farrar, Andrews International; Captain Zarcone, LAPD; Not present, LASD; Steve Whiddon, Council District 13; Not present, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office. Staff: Kerry Morrison and Joe Mariani Jr., Hollywood Property Owners Alliance. Guests: Mike Arminio, Los Angeles Film School; Steve Gentry, Hollywood and Highland; Paul Louis Harrell, Hollywood Characters Association.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Hollywood Entertainment District Committee Chair John Tronson at 10:05 a.m.

II. Public Comment: John Tronson informed the committee that he will be stepping down as Security Chair, and that he has appointed Charlie Colletta to take his place in the New Year. Tronson was recently elected President of the Hollywood Property Owners Alliance.

Paul Louis Harrell said that he has noticed a small improvement in the behavior of characters and vendors in the Hollywood and Highland area, however he feels that there are still more individuals who are breaking the law and that additional enforcement is needed. Steve Whiddon said that the Council office is doing their best to work on legislation to continue to help LAPD with enforcement efforts, however it is a slow process. Captain Zarcone also said that he had reviewed the Character Association's document, which they had put together with the help of Carol Sobel, and that there was very little room for enforcement in it. He is hoping to continue to work with characters like Paul who want to do the right thing to see what other options are available.

III. Meeting Notes: The committee approved the meeting notes from their November 14, 2013 meeting.

IV. Reports

A. Report from Andrews International

1. Monthly Activity Report: Joe Salazar reviewed the report for activities through week 49. Salazar said the officers and the PSOs have done a tremendous job of increasing their contacts with citizens in the BIDs over the past year. For 2013 the BID Patrol has made over 8,000 more citizens contacts compared to this time last year. Salazar also informed the committee of the recent passing of a homeless gentleman who had several past encounters with BID security. The man who had always refused services was a frequent user of a type of vodka in the BID that was discussed during last month's meeting. Morrison said she hopes the BID patrol working with LAPD and the City Attorney can help reach out to liquor stores in the BID to see what can be done to prevent this from happening again in the future. Salazar reported that he and Steve Seyler have also set up a training for BID officers for December 20. The training will be led by staff from My Friend's Place and will give our officers tools to use when dealing with mentally ill individuals in the area. Year to date stats showed total arrests for both BIDs of 1,026 and 4,728 calls for service.

2. Update on 14 Week Observe and Report P.M. Deployment: Seyler informed the committee that the late night patrol is continuing to go very well. Communication with the LAPD has been fantastic, and officers are doing a great job "observing and reporting." Seyler said that he felt the patrol, which is scheduled to end 12/31/2013, has been good but in his opinion is not the best use of manpower. If there are funds available Seyler said the program would be good to continue, however he could not justify moving daytime resources for its continuation. Tronson thanked Seyler for the report and said that Colletta will put

together a small working group of committee members to evaluate the program and report back to the HPOA board next year.

3. 2014 Budget Finalization: Joseph Mariani reported that both the CHC and HPOA Board of Directors approved their 2014 budgets. That being said both BIDs have budgeted for the same amount of patrol hours as this year, while Hollywood has allowed some extra contingency funds to pay for some equipment Andrews has requested for the officers and the upgrade of the LAPD Surveillance Camera System.

B. Report from LAPD: Captain Zarcone reported on recent activities in the Hollywood area. The Captain also mentioned the difficulty in trying to enforce the recent no solicitation ordinance, and that he was happy to hear it was being revised for clarification. In regards to the nighttime patrol the Captain stated that it has been helpful having BID patrol out at night. However, given the board's budget constraints he felt that an upgrade of the camera system may serve the district better. In the future though, if there was an option to have both the patrol and the cameras, the Captain said he would like to see this occur.

C. Report from LA Sheriff's Department: LASD was not present at the meeting.

D. Report from Neighborhood Prosecutor: City Attorney was not present at the meeting. However, it was noted that there are currently 16 stay away orders in place in the area covered by both BIDs.

E. Councilmember O'Farrell's Office: Steven Whiddon reported that the no solicitation ordinance has been revised and approved by council. According to Whiddon there was a slight discrepancy in the ordinance that was revised by the City Attorney's office. The ordinance will now allow tour companies to hand out materials from the public right of way, but will not allow commercial transactions to occur on the sidewalk. Whiddon informed the committee that the City Attorney's office will be holding a new training for LAPD in the coming days on the ordinance. One issue that was presented involved the CD Vendors. One one hand, it has been determined that their artistic content is protected free speech. However, Captain Zarcone indicated that in instances where a blank CD is "sold," then this can be considered "theft by trick or device" and an arrest can be made. LAPD will be planning some undercover enforcement efforts.

#### V. New Business

A. 2014 Hollywood Entertainment District Security Committee Members: With his recent appointment as President of the HPOA Board, John Tronson appointed the Hollywood Entertainment District Committee members for 2014, which are as follows: Charlie Colletta, Chair; Carol Massie, Galo Medina, Frank Stephan, Monica Yamada, Chad Lewis, and Derrick Malec.

#### VI. Old Business

##### A. LAPD Camera System

1. System Upgrade: Mariani distributed a budget sheet which showed the anticipated costs for the LAPD Surveillance system upgrade. Mariani informed the committee that with the recently approved budget it is expected that a down payment for the system would be made out of this year's budget of around \$50,000, with the remainder to be paid in 2014. Mariani had spoken with Metro Video and they seemed to think that work on the upgrade could begin in mid-January. Mariani said the upgrade would involve multiple phases, including the potential for new future camera locations and the phased installation of a MESH network in the two BIDs as funds became available.

B. Public Inebriation Mitigation: Seyler said that the BID patrol will work with LAPD to try and come up with a way to contact liquor store owners to see if they can stop selling single serving beverages to those individuals that are already intoxicated. Mariani said he would continue to work with Seyler to try and find the letter that was sent out in 2007 notifying store owners and property owners of the problem.

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C. Hollywood and Cahuenga Intersection and Alley Update: Mariani reported that when speaking with the owner of the Security Pacific Bank building, Mariani was told that a gate is in the process of being installed in the alley. No actual date was given, but if a gate is installed Mariani said he would notify Clean Street to resume cleaning services in the alley. Tronson said the news was encouraging, but that he would not support any cleanup efforts until we know the alley can be secured.

D. Homeless Outreach Update: Mariani shared with the board some statistics from PATH which showed the positive impact the outreach team has had in the community this year. Mariani also shared the recent success story of George, a gentleman who had been homeless in Hollywood and is now living in his own apartment. Mariani said he would be giving a more in depth presentation on the success the Hollywood community has experienced in the area of homeless outreach this past year at the HPOA Board's meeting on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

E. Kerr Complaint: Morrison said that the issue is being handled now by Andrews International's legal team.

F. Community Impact Team

- a. Sidewalk Issues: Tour Bus Ordinance Enforcement: See Council Office Report.
- b. Valet Ordinance: Steven Whiddon said that there was no news to report at this time.

VII. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 9, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. at the Los Angeles Film School (6363 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. 90028).

VIII. Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Hollywood Entertainment District Committee Chair John Tronson.